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first structure simplified. Later the lens and especially the vitreous body degenerated more rapidly than the retina. The muscles in *Typhlichthys* have disappeared. The scleral cartilages have not failed to the same extent as the active structures of the eye. The degeneration is in no case due to arrested development. D. S. J.

Abbott on the Marine Fishes of Peru.—An excellent piece of faunal work is "The Marine Fishes of Peru," by James Francis Abbott, published in the *Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia* for June, 1899.

The paper is based on the collections made by Rear-Admiral L. A. Beardslee, U. S. N., at Callao, while in command of the *Philadelphia*. This accomplished officer has long taken a deep interest in natural history matters, and this collection presented by him to Stanford University is a proof of such interest.

Mr. Abbott notes 102 species as recorded thus far from Peru, and thirty of them are included in the Beardslee collection. Mr. Abbott describes as new the following species from Callao: *Basilichthys octavius*, *Basilichthys regillus*, *Basilichthys jordani*, *Pisciregia beardsleei*, and *Sciæna gilberti*. The new genus *Pisciregia* is allied to the California genus *Atherinopsis*, having a similar non-protractile premaxillary, but the vomer is armed with recurved teeth; the outer teeth in the jaws are enlarged, and the first dorsal is very small. The abundance of species of large-sized *Atherinidæ* (Pez del Rey), constituting the genera *Chirostoma*, *Atherinopsis*, *Atherinops*, *Basilichthys*, and *Pisciregia*, excellent food fishes all, is one of the notable features of the fish fauna of the eastern Pacific.

D. S. J.

Fishes of French Guiana.—Dr. Léon Vaillant has published in the *Bulletin* of the Museum at Paris a paper on fishes collected in French Guiana, mostly from fresh waters.

Two new species are described: *Arius physacanthus*, from Rio Mahury; and *Rivulus geayi*, from Rio Cachipour. The *Arius* is allied to *emphysetus* and should be placed with it in *Sciadeichthys* if the modern genera of Bleeker are adopted.

D. S. J.

Australian Tunicata.—Students of the Tunicata have known for some years that Professor W. A. Herdman has been occupied with the investigation of the collections of this group belonging to the Australian Museum at Sydney, New South Wales, and his report has